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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nobuyoshi NAMBU et al. Serial No.: 09/674,167

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner:

U.S. Filing Date: October 27, 2000

Title: CHELATE-FORMING FILTER, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME,

AND METHOD OF PURIFYING LIQUID USING THE FILTER

International Application No.: PCT/JP99/02052 International Filing Date : April 16, 1999 U.S. 371 Acceptance Date : December 28, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

TO PROSTURE TO TO STORY Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicants request that the enclosed references cited on attached form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also please find a copy of a Supplementary European Search Report citing these references. The relevance of the references can be seen from the Supplementary European Search Report. It is noted that both of the enclosed references are English language publications based on the same Japanese priority application no. 47/65,020 filed on June 30, 1972.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 30, 2002

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